SHANDA FANTASY ARTS

50 DEC 2018

$6.00

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M&T COMICS

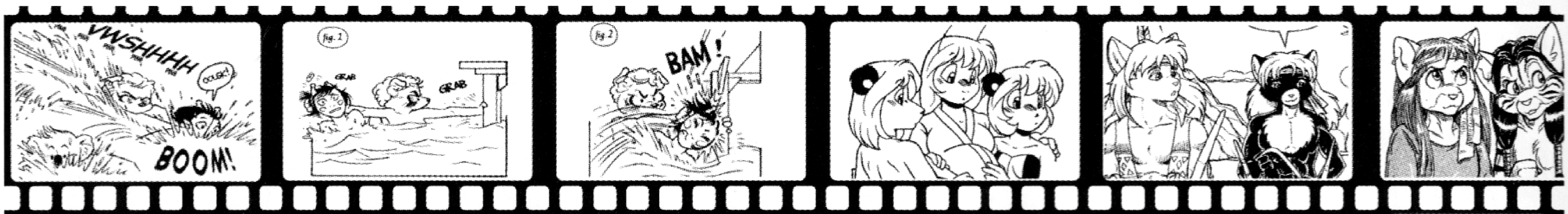
INSIDE:

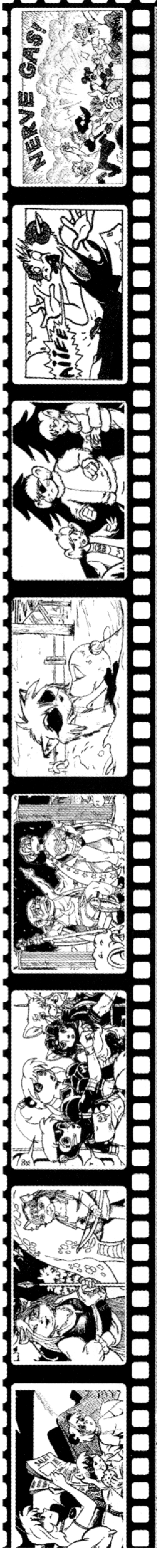
Carole Curtis Katmandu

# Shanda
## THE PANDA

LAST ISSUE!

## MY BIG FAT PANDA WEDDING





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# The INNER CIRCLE

## HAIL AND FAREWELL

Now we come to the end of SHANDA and KATMANDU. But let's talk about another comic. When I was a kid, like many other people that ended up in comics, I made one copy comics by folding notebook paper in half. One of my comics was named.....NEW HORIZONS. Years later Carole and I published a comic by the same name.

Carole and I will still be active with the comic strip DICK TRACY, viewable daily on GOCOMICS.COM/DICK TRACY.

Thanks to all of our fine contributors and staff through the years!

SHANDA 50 made possible through the kind cooperation of M&T Comics

M&T COMICS

*Mike and Carole*

**www.gocomics.com/dicktracy**

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ALL SYSTEMS UNDER FULL

SHANDA'S ADVENTURES COME TO AN END IN

# "I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE WE ALL SHALL BE RECEIVED IN
# graceland

SCRIPT BY MIKE CURTIS ART BY RAZORFOX COVER BY MICHELE LIGHT

SHANDA, IT'S TRADITION!
FOR YOU MAYBE, GRANDMA!
WHITE IS A FUNERAL COLOR!
I WON'T WEAR A RED DRESS AT MY WEDDING!

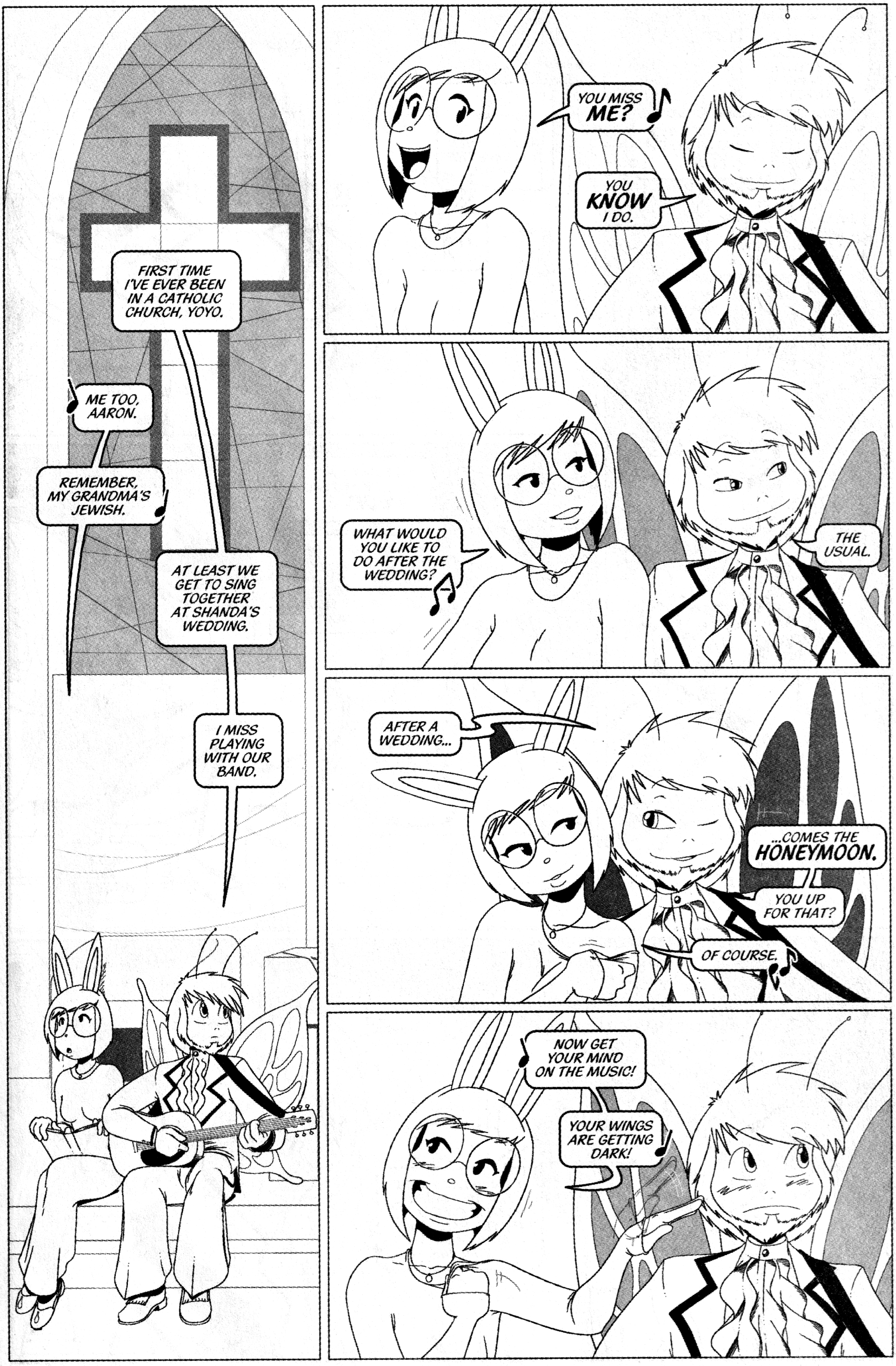
IT'S BAD ENOUGH YOU'RE MARRYING A GWAILO—
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, GRANDMA!
YOU DON'T CALL MY DAD THAT!
QUINN?!
MOM DOESN'T SPEAK CHINESE, BUT SHU'S TEACHING ME.
THAT'S NOT A GOOD WORD!
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE IT IF DAD CALLED YOU A, COCHON?
QUINN, I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE THERE.
LITTLE GIRLS SHOULDN'T TAKE PART IN SUCH ADULT CONVERSATIONS—
YOU WERE YELLING THAT WORD, GRANDMA.
I'M GROWN ENOUGH TO NOT USE SWEAR WORDS IN ENGLISH, CHINESE, OR CAJUN.
NOW TELL MOM YOU'RE SORRY AND TAKE IT BACK!
*sigh*
VERY WELL.

US MAIL
SHANDA!
I GOT A PACKAGE FROM GASPAR!
THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR?
RICHARD, I TAKE IT YOUR PACKAGE IS RELATED TO THE WEDDING TODAY?
YES, MA'AM.
I HAD GASPAR BUY ME A GOOD LUCK GRIS-GRIS.
DID HE SHOP AT MADAME LAVEAU'S STORE IN THE FRENCH QUARTER?
HOW QUAINT.
OH, GRANDMA.
OF COURSE NOT.
THAT'S FOR TOURISTS.
HE WENT TO THE REAL VOODOO STORE BY THE PRISON.

GRANDMA, HOW ARE YOU THIS MORNING?
VERY WELL, KERI.
YOU'VE BEEN OUT EARLY THIS MORNING.
OH YEAH, **LOTS** TO DO!
I PICKED UP MOST OF THE BRIDESMAID DRESSES!
DID YOU GET **ANY** SLEEP?
IT WAS **MIDNIGHT** WHEN I TURNED IN.
YEAH, KERI, WHAT TIME **DID** YOU GET IN LAST NIGHT?
IT WAS **ONE O'CLOCK** WHEN I GOT HOME FROM WORK.
I CAME IN AROUND 2...
...BUT MY ALARM WAS SET FOR 6 A.M.
OH, OKAY.
*whew!*

ONE THING I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED ABOUT ST. MICHAEL'S IS THE WAY BIRDS NEST IN HIS ARMS.
HEAVEN'S WARRIOR PROTECTING HEAVEN'S CREATURES.
THAT'S SWEET, TERRI.
I NEVER NOTICED.
GLAD YOU'RE DRIVING SHANDA AND RICHARD TO THE AIRPORT.
HOW ARE YOU HANDLING HER **HONEYMOON?**
I'M OKAY WITH IT.

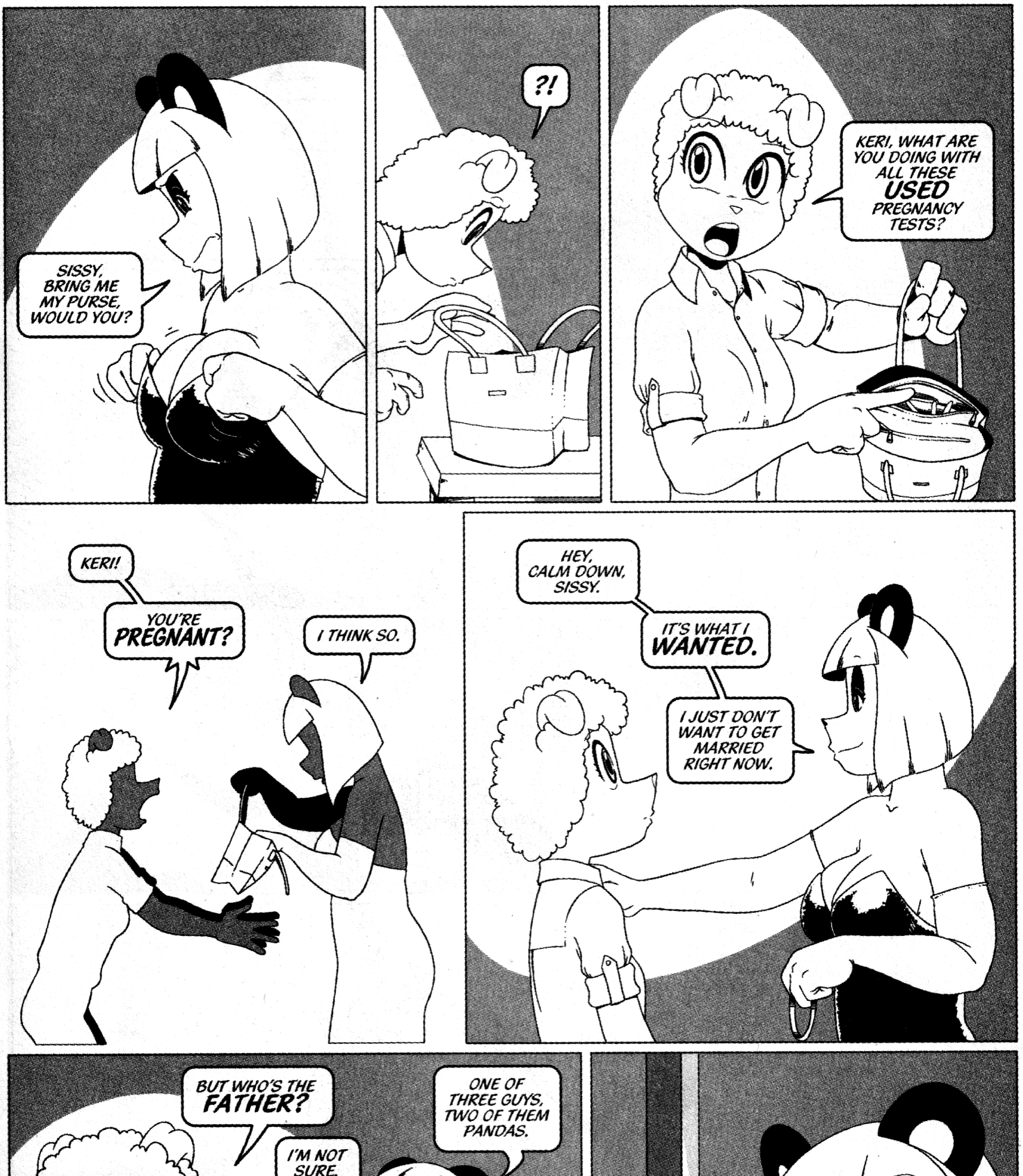
AFTER ALL, THEY'LL BE BACK IN A WEEK.
THEN I CAN BE WITH SHANDA AGAIN.
YOU REALLY LOVE HER, DON'T YOU?
FROM THE TIPS OF MY ANTENNAE DOWN TO MY TOENAILS, I'M ALL HERS.
BEEN ROUGH ON GROUND RATIONS, EH?
YOU KNOW **WHY** SHANDA'S NOT SLEEPING WITH YOU AND RICHARD, DON'T YOU?
NO.
SHE'S NOT TAKING THE PILL.
HASN'T BEEN FOR THREE MONTHS.
SHE'S PLANNING TO GET SOME **WORK** DONE THIS NEXT WEEK.
OH.
WELL...
**THAT** EXPLAINS A LOT.
OF COURSE, **I** COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN HER PREGNANT.
THAT'S IT, TERRI.
KEEP TALKING AND DON'T LOOK.
SHE'D LOOK GOOD TO ME EVEN AT NINE MONTHS.
AND SHE WAS MY LOVER WHEN **I** WAS PREGNANT.


FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN IN A CATHOLIC CHURCH, YOYO.
ME TOO, AARON.
REMEMBER, MY GRANDMA'S JEWISH.
AT LEAST WE GET TO SING TOGETHER AT SHANDA'S WEDDING.
I MISS PLAYING WITH OUR BAND.
YOU MISS ME?
YOU KNOW I DO.
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO AFTER THE WEDDING?
THE USUAL.
AFTER A WEDDING...
...COMES THE HONEYMOON.
YOU UP FOR THAT?
OF COURSE.
NOW GET YOUR MIND ON THE MUSIC!
YOUR WINGS ARE GETTING DARK!

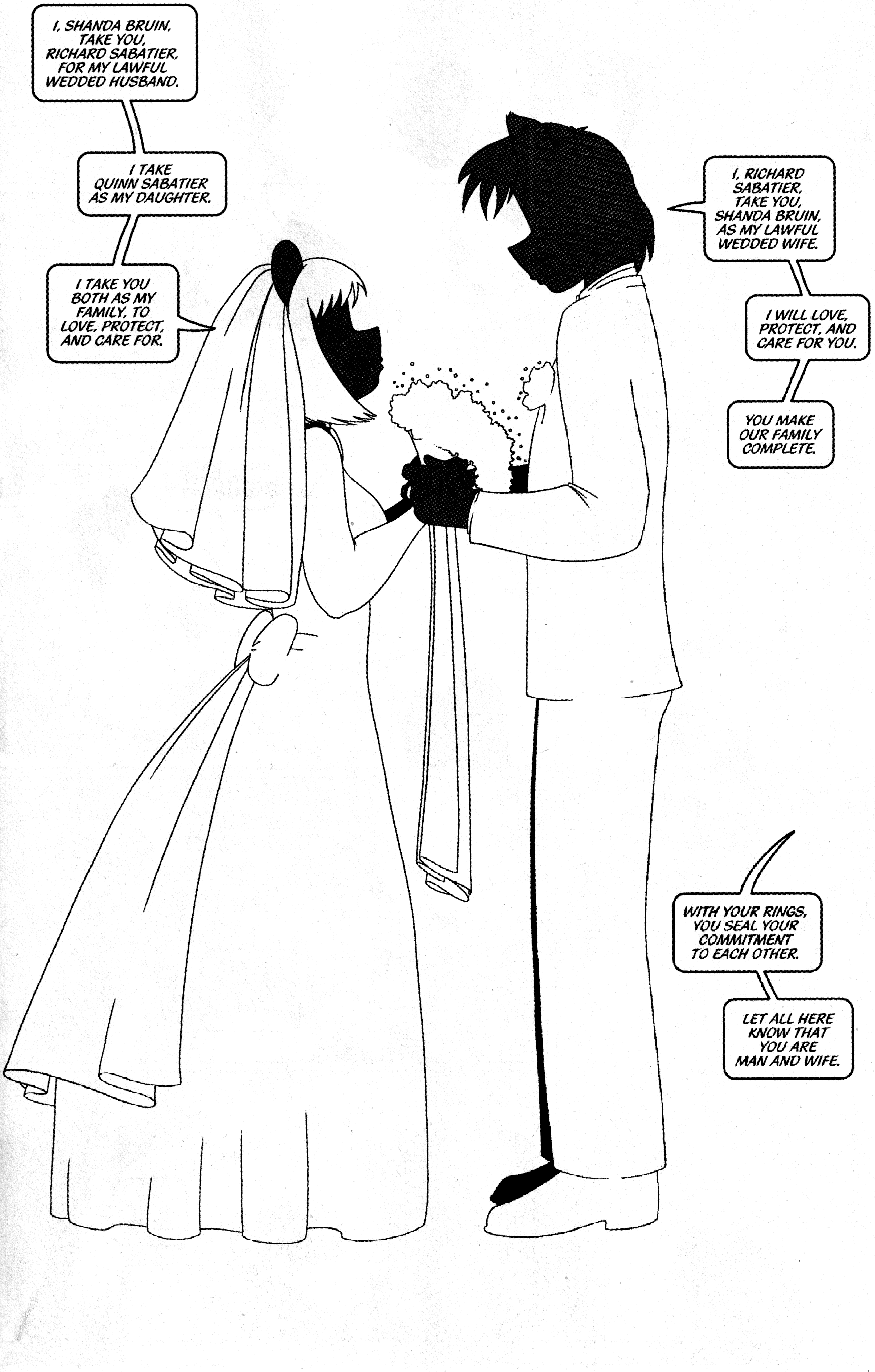
AARON, DO YOU THINK I SHOULD MEET WITH CARAMEL'S FATHER?
I'VE HEARD HE'S GOING TO NEED A **YONI.**
YOU KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT OUR LAPINE RELIGION TO KNOW HOW BIG A JOB THAT IS.
IT'S A HUGE OPPORTUNITY.
YOYO, GO FOR IT. YOU HAVE TO GRAB IT WHEN YOU HAVE THE CHANCE.
I WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN.
YEAH, BUT YOU'LL STILL BE AROUND **PEOPLE.**
IF I TAKE THE YONI JOB, HE'D BE MY JOB AND MY LIFE 24-7 FOR A YEAR OR MORE.
THEN WHY DO IT?
WHERE'S THE BENEFIT?
HONOR.
IT'S A GREAT HONOR FOR MY FAMILY, EVEN IF EVERYDAY PEOPLE WILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT MEANS.

RIGHT NOW, WE'D BETTER PRACTICE.
OUR LADY **SHANDA** HAS THE HONOR TODAY, YOYO.
AARON, LET'S GO A LITTLE SLOWER.
SURE.
HI, YOYO!
ARE YOU AND AARON SINGING AT THE WEDDING?
YES!
MS. BRUIN ASKED US TO PERFORM "IF I WERE A CARPENTER!"
SHE HIRED A DIFFERENT BAND FOR THE RECEPTION.
I CAN'T PLAY ZYDECO.
OOH! COUNTRY MUSIC!
YOU'LL LIKE THAT, SISSY!
SOUNDS GOOD!
MAYBE YOU CAN HAVE A DANCE WITH DOUBLE-R!
HUSH, MISSY.

St. Michael's
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
MASS TIMES
Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
CONFESSION SAT. & SUN. AFTER MASS
BAZAAR! SUNDAY!
MOM, IS TANYA DRESSING UP FOR THE WEDDING, TOO?
YEP.
SHE'S THE BEST MAN, OR GROOM'S FRIEND.
THAT TUX LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, TANYA!
YEAH, I WAS SURPRISED RICK ASKED ME!
AT LEAST I GOT TO WEAR A DRESS!


SISSY, BRING ME MY PURSE, WOULD YOU?
?!
KERI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH ALL THESE **USED** PREGNANCY TESTS?
KERI!
YOU'RE **PREGNANT?**
I THINK SO.
HEY, CALM DOWN, SISSY.
IT'S WHAT I **WANTED.**
I JUST DON'T WANT TO GET MARRIED RIGHT NOW.
BUT WHO'S THE **FATHER?**
I'M NOT SURE.
ONE OF THREE GUYS, TWO OF THEM PANDAS.
AND DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO ANYONE.
I'M NOT GOING TO UPSTAGE SHANDA ON HER WEDDING DAY.
WE'LL TALK LATER.

HI THERE, HANDSOME.
MA JOLIE BLON.


I, SHANDA BRUIN, TAKE YOU, RICHARD SABATIER, FOR MY LAWFUL WEDDED HUSBAND.
I TAKE QUINN SABATIER AS MY DAUGHTER.
I TAKE YOU BOTH AS MY FAMILY, TO LOVE, PROTECT, AND CARE FOR.
I, RICHARD SABATIER, TAKE YOU, SHANDA BRUIN, AS MY LAWFUL WEDDED WIFE.
I WILL LOVE, PROTECT, AND CARE FOR YOU.
YOU MAKE OUR FAMILY COMPLETE.
WITH YOUR RINGS, YOU SEAL YOUR COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER.
LET ALL HERE KNOW THAT YOU ARE MAN AND WIFE.

HEY, WHAT'S EVERYONE CRYING FOR?
THIS IS A **HAPPY** TIME!
I ALWAYS CRY AT WEDDINGS!
WELL, YOU'LL RUIN YOUR MAKE-UP!
WE'VE STILL GOT PICTURES TO DO!
BESIDES, YOU MIGHT CATCH THE **BOUQUET!**
HA!
LIKE **I'M** EVER GOING TO GET MARRIED!
YOU NEVER KNOW!

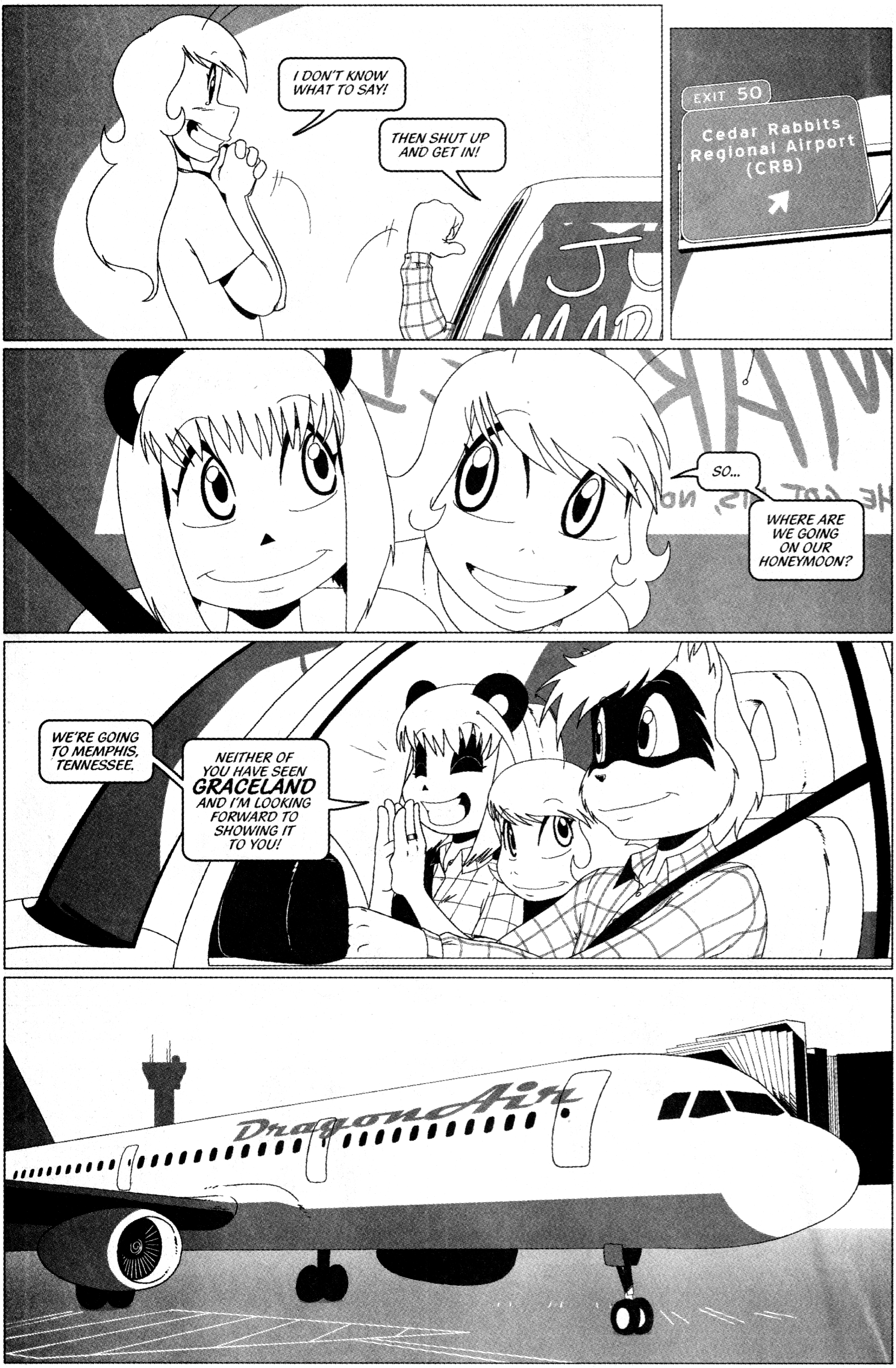
Canyon
KERI!
WHAT IS IT, GRANDMA?
THE MAIL ARRIVED AFTER YOU LEFT FOR THE CHURCH, KERI.
THE PACKAGE CAME FROM THE GENEALOGY INSTITUTE.
YOU HAD ASKED IF THIS **"WING BEISHUNG"** WAS RELATED TO US.
AND?
HE ***IS*** ON OUR FAMILY TREE.
NOT MORE THAN A DISTANT COUSIN OR SO.
WHY, DID YOU WANT TO MEET HIM?
**NO!**
NO, DEFINITELY ***NOT!***

JOLI BLON, TU CROYAIS...
...IL AVAIT JUSTE TOI DEDANS LE PAYS...
RICHARD, I WANT A FAVOR FROM YOU.
OH?
SISSY HAS HAD A CRUSH ON YOU FOR MONTHS NOW.
I WANT YOU TO FIX THAT NOW.
SISSY?
MM?
READY TO DANCE?
DANCE?

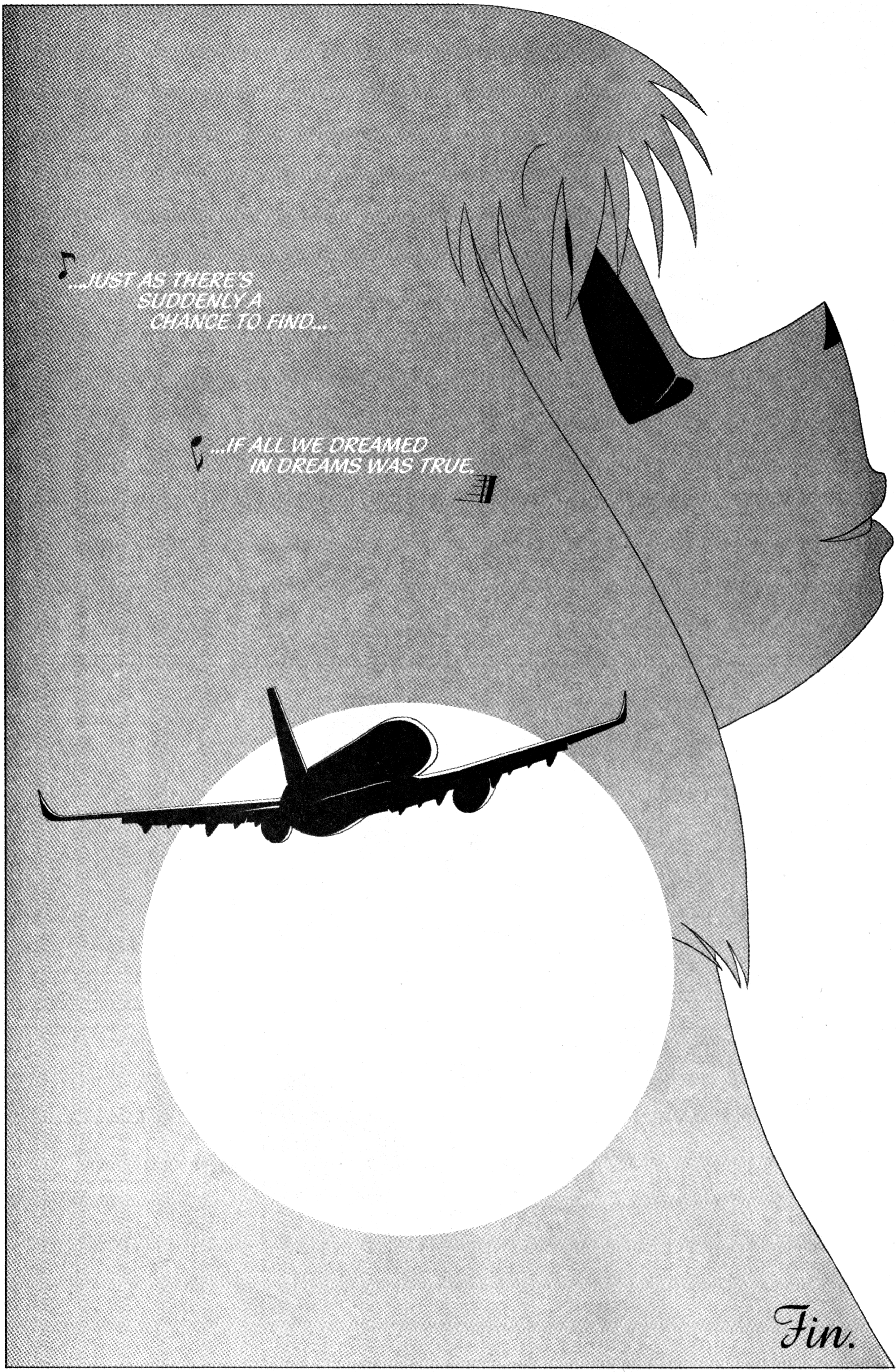
THANK YOU FOR THE DANCE, RICK.
I'VE GOTTA GO FIND QUAMUS.

HEY, KERI!
COLT!
THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE HERE!
YOU MISS ME THAT MUCH?
KNOCK IT OFF!
I NEED YOU TO CARRY THESE BAGS TO THE CAR!
I THOUGHT MS. BRUIN ALREADY PACKED.
IT'S A LONG STORY AND YOU'RE NOT GONNA HEAR IT!
DAMN! THAT'S A LOT OF LUGGAGE!
HERE! PULL THE CAR UP FRONT!
WHERE **YOU** GOING?
I HAVE TO GO GET **TERRI!**
?

. . .
BEEP-BEEP!
TERRI, GET IN THE CAR!
QUICK!
WHAT?
YOU TWO ARE OFF ON YOUR HONEYMOON!
NO...
WE THREE ARE OFF!
JU
MARI
HE GOT HIS, NOW S
TERRI, WE'VE HAD THIS PLANNED ALL ALONG!
KERI PACKED YOUR BAGS AND I CALLED YOUR WORK.
THE FAMILY THINKS YOU'RE TAKING A TRIP...
...AND YOU ARE!
9F
9E
9D
8
BESIDES, WE'RE GOING TO WORK ON A BABY...
...AND WE WANT YOU THERE!


I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!
THEN SHUT UP AND GET IN!
EXIT 50
Cedar Rabbits Regional Airport (CRB)
SO...
WHERE ARE WE GOING ON OUR HONEYMOON?
WE'RE GOING TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.
NEITHER OF YOU HAVE SEEN **GRACELAND** AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SHOWING IT TO YOU!
DragonAir

HEY, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WORLD...
WE'RE OFF TO FIND OUR DREAMS...
WHY ARE OUR HEARTS BEATING SO FAST?
WHY IS THERE SUDDENLY A BRAND NEW HOPE INSIDE US THAT WILL SURELY LAST?
WE'RE OFF TO FIND THINGS NEW...
SO WE WILL FOLLOW EVERY CLUE...


♪ ...JUST AS THERE'S SUDDENLY A CHANCE TO FIND...
♪ ...IF ALL WE DREAMED IN DREAMS WAS TRUE.
Fin.

Terrie Smith
©Katmandu '17

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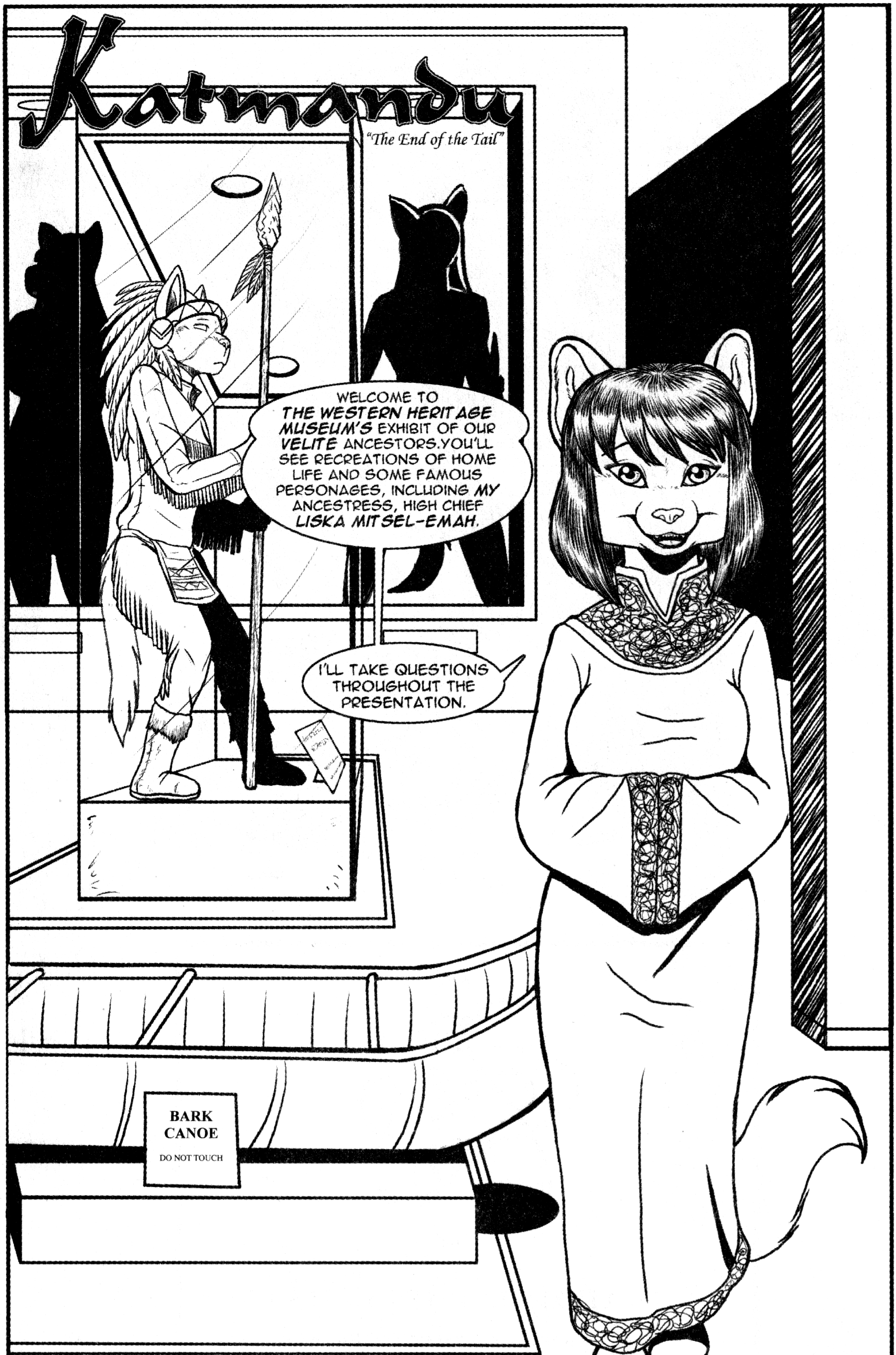
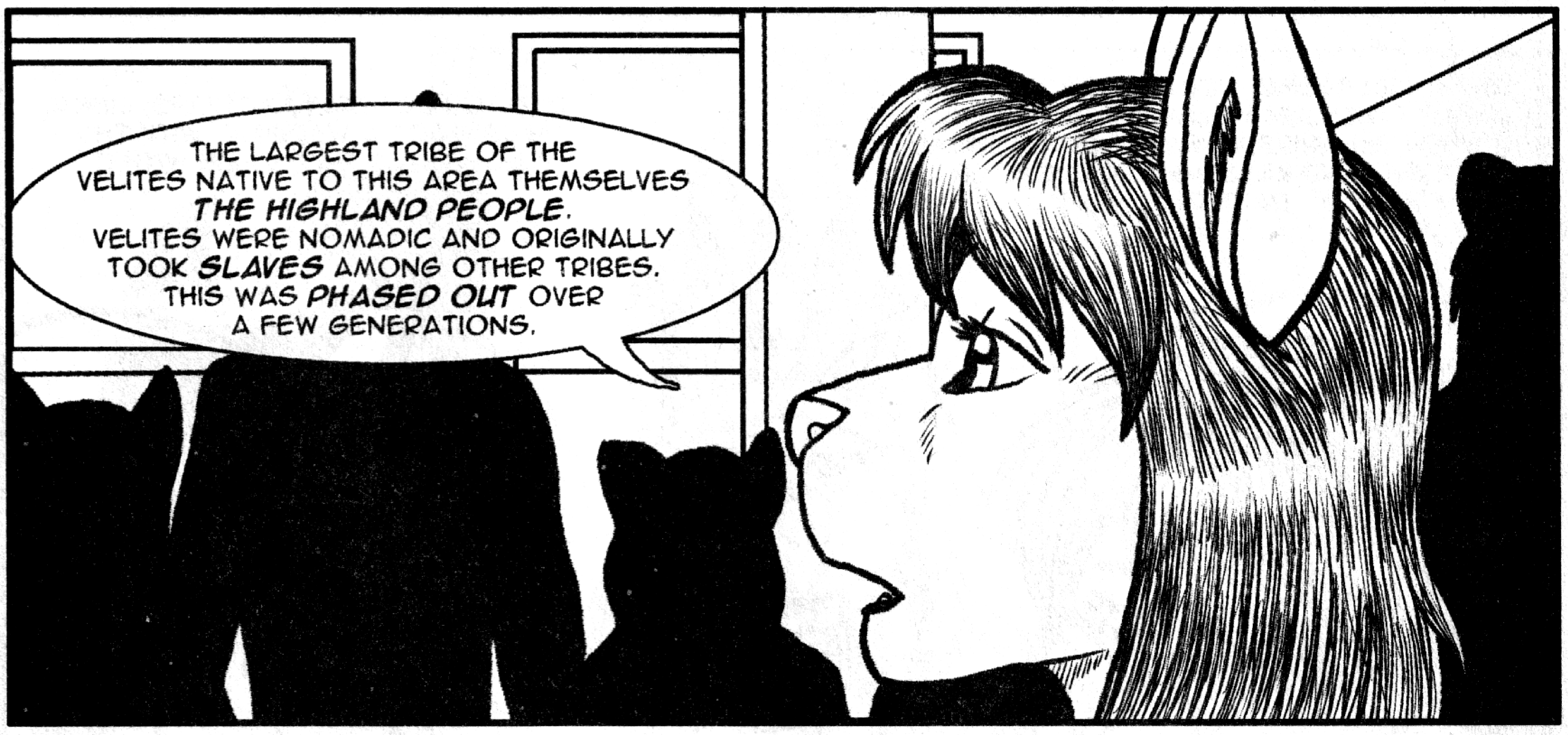
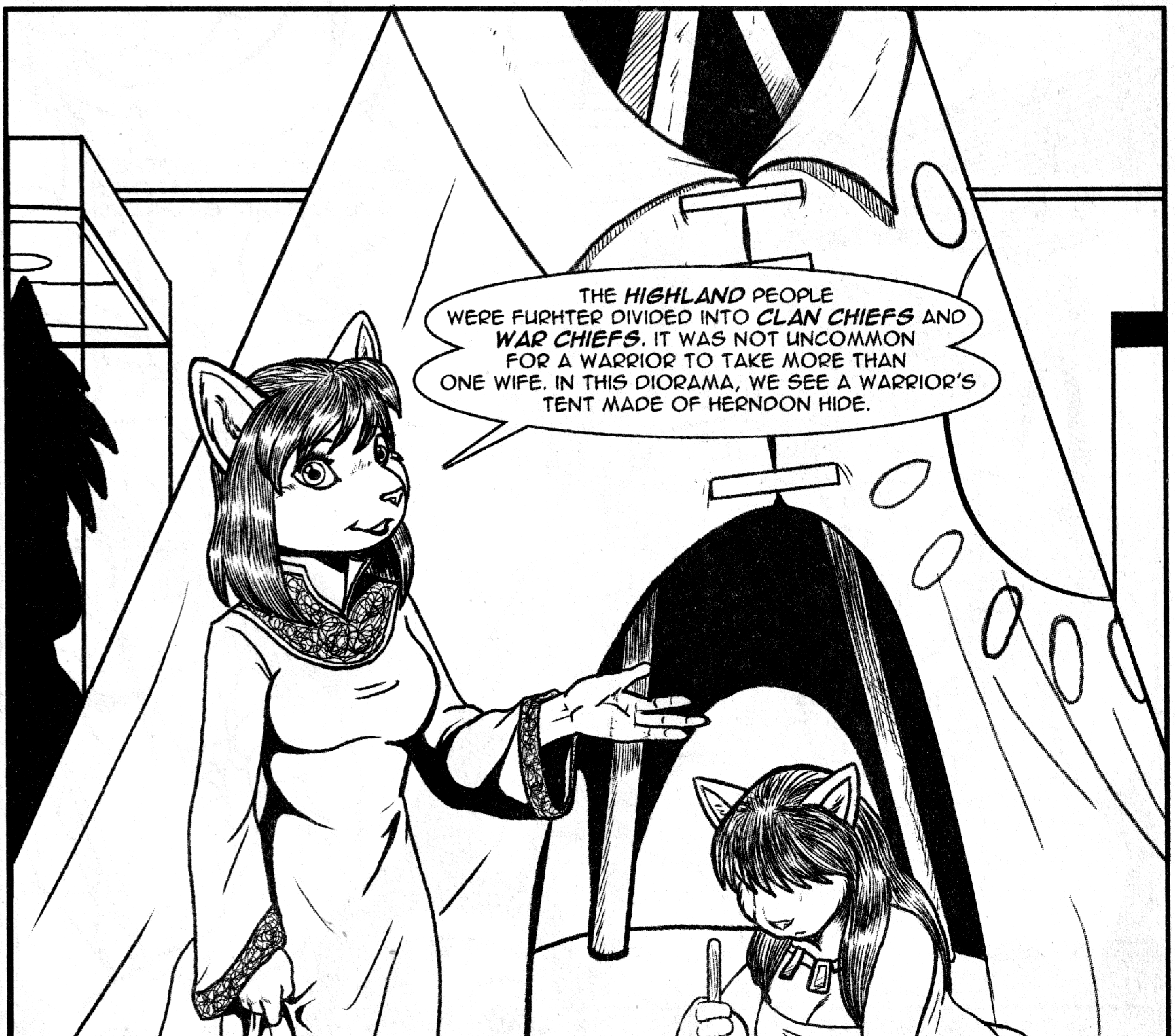

Katmandu
"The End of the Tail"
WELCOME TO THE WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM'S EXHIBIT OF OUR VELITE ANCESTORS. YOU'LL SEE RECREATIONS OF HOME LIFE AND SOME FAMOUS PERSONAGES, INCLUDING MY ANCESTRESS, HIGH CHIEF LISKA MITSEL-EMAH.
I'LL TAKE QUESTIONS THROUGHOUT THE PRESENTATION.
BARK CANOE
DO NOT TOUCH

KATMANDU CREATED BY AND WRITTEN BY CAROLE CURTIS - ART AND LETTERING BY SHAWNTAE HOWARD


THE LARGEST TRIBE OF THE VELITES NATIVE TO THIS AREA THEMSELVES ***THE HIGHLAND PEOPLE***. VELITES WERE NOMADIC AND ORIGINALLY TOOK ***SLAVES*** AMONG OTHER TRIBES. THIS WAS ***PHASED OUT*** OVER A FEW GENERATIONS.


THE ***HIGHLAND*** PEOPLE WERE FURHTER DIVIDED INTO ***CLAN CHIEFS*** AND ***WAR CHIEFS***. IT WAS NOT UNCOMMON FOR A WARRIOR TO TAKE MORE THAN ONE WIFE. IN THIS DIORAMA, WE SEE A WARRIOR'S TENT MADE OF HERNDON HIDE.

"MY ANCESTRESS, LISKA MITSEL-EMAHN, WAS TAKEN AS A SLAVE, EVENTUALLY WHEN THE TRIBE WAS ATTACKED, SHE FOUGHT AND KILLED SEVERAL OF THE RAIDERS."
"DUE TO HER HEROIC ACTIONS, LISKA, WAS MADE A WARRIOR, WITH THE FULL STATUS THAT CAME WITH IT."
"TIME WENT ON, LISKA TOOK A ***WIFE, SHAYGIN***."
"LATER, SHE TOOK, ***ANOTHER WIFE***, HER NAME WAS ***PATCHES***. EACH WIFE BROUGHT HER CHILDREN."
"LISKA BECAME A WAR CHIEF AS THE YEARS PASSED. SHE MADE ALLIANCES, WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE TRIBES."
"SHE LOVED HER CHILDREN BUT WAS PROUDEST OF HER YOUNGEST SON, QUITE BIRD."

"QUIET BIRD WAS NOT LISKA'S NATURAL CHILD. SHE HAD ENCOUNTERED A DYING TRIBE OF AMAZON LONGTOOTHS AND THEY GAVE HER A MALE CHILD AS A GIFT."
YOU MEAN, LONGTOOTH'S WERE REAL?
*YES*, CHILD. THEY REALLY DID EXIST *LONG* AGO.
"WHEN *QUIET BIRD* WAS GROWN, *LISKA* WAS FEELING OLD. THE HIGHLAND PEOPLE HAD MOVED PERMANENTLY INTO THE DEEP WOODS. AFTER SOME TIME, THEIR TRADITIONAL RIVALS LEARNED THIS AND FOLLOWED THEM."

"LISKA'S ENEMIES LAUNCHED A SURPRISE ATTACK WHILE MOST OF THE TRIBE WAS AWAY ON A HUNT. LOSSES WERE HIGH AND LISKA WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED. SHE LOCATED HER SON, QUIET BIRD, AND SENT HIM AFTER HER OTHER WARRIORS."
"YEARS BEFORE IN THEIR VISION QUEST, LISKA HAD LEARNED THAT HER DEATH WOULD COME ALONE, IN THE DARK.
SHE TOLD QUIET BIRD TO PREPARE A COUNTERATTACK."
"SHE KNEW SHE COULD NOT LIVE WITH HER WOUNDS."
"LISKA, WHO ROSE TO CHIEF OF THE HIGHLAND PEOPLE, FROM BEING A SLAVE, REMAINED BEHIND TO BUY HER WARRIORS TIME."

WAS LISKA'S TRIBE SAVED?
YES, DARLING, OR I WOULDN'T BE HERE. LISKA WAS MY *DIRECT* ANCESTOR.
THIS CEREMONIAL OUTFIT ***BELONGED*** TO ***LISKA***. IT WAS PASSED DOWN FROM ***GENERATION*** TO ***GENERATION*** TO TEACH.
JUST LIKE THE STORIES I TELL. ***OH!*** HERE COMES ***ANOTHER*** TOUR GROUP.
HIGH CHIEF CEREMONIAL
OF
LISKA MITSEL-EMAH

EPILOGUE: 7am
MOM?
MOM!
MOM! WAKE UP!
SHANDA'S BEDROOM.
A MIKE SAGARA • CURTIS STORY
IT'S TIME TO TAKE YOUR TEST!
hmf?
OH YEAH.
COME ON AND GET UP!
THIS MIGHT BE THE DAY, MOM!
LET'S HOPE SO.

RICHARD?
WHERE'S SHANDA?
QUINN CAME AND GOT HER FOR HER MORNING PREGNANCY TEST.
YOU KNOW, SHE'LL WANT TO DO THIS WITH ME SOMEDAY.
WELL, WHAT'S THE NEWS?
PREGNANT

It's something unpredictable
but in the end it's right

We hope you had
the time of your life.

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